

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/EP2004/014484

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G01N21/64 G01J1/04 G01J1/42

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G01N G01J G02B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data, INSPEC, COMPENDEX

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 801 828 A (COLLINS RUSSELL L) 1 September 1998 (1998-09-01) abstract column 1, line 63 - column 3, line 11 column 5, line 1 - line 8 figure 1	1-12
A	US 6 355 934 B1 (OOSGOOD ET AL) 12 March 2002 (2002-03-12) column 5, lines 25-53	1-12
A	US 6 018 387 A (EPPLER JOERG ET AL) 25 January 2000 (2000-01-25) * col. 2, lines 22-40 ; col. 4, line 5 - col.5. line 8 *	1-12
A	US 5 757 014 A (BRUNO ET AL) 26 May 1998 (1998-05-26) abstract	1-12

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 March 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

01/04/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Rasmusson, R

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/EP2004/014484

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5801828	A	01-09-1998	NONE	
US 6355934	B1	12-03-2002	EP 1157268 A1 JP 2002543370 T WO 0050878 A1 US 2002036271 A1 US 6441379 B1	28-11-2001 17-12-2002 31-08-2000 28-03-2002 27-08-2002
US 6018387	A	25-01-2000	DE 19704731 A1	13-08-1998
US 5757014	A	26-05-1998	EP 0736767 A1 CA 2173552 A1 JP 8285775 A	09-10-1996 08-10-1996 01-11-1996